



Governor Terry E. Branstad
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds
San Wong, Director

**JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL
DMC Subcommittee
Minutes of Regular Meeting**

Lucas State Office Building
321 East 12th Street, Rms. 319-320
Des Moines, Iowa

July 14, 2015

Present: Wayne Ford, Chair; Kim Cheeks; LaTasha DeLoach; Bob Greenlee; Kevin McKeever; Sanjita Pradhan; Miguel Trevino; John Wauters

Others: Vivian Hayashi

Staff: Dave Kuker; Julie Rinker

- **Welcome/Introductions**
- **Agenda - Additions/Amendments**

Wayne Ford, Chair, opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m. A quorum was not present.

- **Approval of 2-18-15 Meeting Summary**

Approval of the minutes was conducted later in the meeting when a quorum was present. **John Wauters moved to approve the minutes from the February meeting, seconded by Bob Greenlee. The motion was unanimously approved.**

- **JJAC Approved Budget**

Dave Kuker reported that the \$25,000 DMC budget was approved at the June JJAC meeting.

- **DMC Reduction Plan 2015/16**
- **Local DMC Collaboration and Plan Development Effort**
- **Discussions With State Leaders**

Kuker reviewed meetings held with local officials/stakeholders in several communities. Attendees included representatives from the court, NAACP, prosecution, defense, schools, youth-serving agencies, DHR Board, and law enforcement. CJJP staff are encouraging the use of police diversion programs for minor offenses to divert kids away from front-end system processing. On July 23, a meeting will be held with Davenport officials. In August 2016, a progress report is due to state leaders regarding the CASP plan recommendations. The plan fits with the JJAC's DMC goals and objectives.

Ford requested that the local stakeholder meeting schedule be shared with DMC members. He suggested notifying the media. Kuker indicated the media would not be involved in these preliminary meetings. Both Greenlee and Wauters concurred.

Ford requested a meeting protocol so he could respond when asked. He will discuss the matter with Division Administrator Steve Michael. Ford would like to engage the media at some point—either before or after.

- **Ongoing Provision of Data**

Kuker reported that CJJP is working with Department of Education officials to share school discipline data. Ford asked if data collection issues had been resolved with the Des Moines Police Department and Public Schools. Kuker responded that a local group is working on it and offered to provide an update at the next meeting.

- **State-Level DMC Summit**

Kuker reported that Betty Andrews, NAACP, will hold a DMC-related event in August in Des Moines. In October, Rep. Helen Miller will hold a more broad-based event in Cedar Falls. Additional Casey foundation funding for DMC (\$25,000) will go toward a juvenile justice training event to further local planning. The DMC Subcommittee must plan the event with the Chief Juvenile Court Officers. Representatives from larger communities will be invited to attend which will be held in the spring of 2016.

- **Implementation of Electronic Version of DST**

Kuker reported that the electronic DST (Detention Screening Tool) has been piloted in Sioux City. Training has been held in a number of select districts. It will be implemented statewide by the end of 2015.

- **Racial Impact Statement Law**

Kuker suggested reviewing the Iowa Code regarding racial impact statements to determine if changes are necessary. Ford stated that Iowa, Oregon, and Connecticut are the only states that have this law and invited members to express their interest in studying this law.

- **Gear Up – Denise Riley, Iowa College Student Aid Commission**

Denise Riley presented information regarding a \$22 million federal grant administered by Iowa College Aid. The GEAR UP grant (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) seeks to increase the number of students prepared to enter postsecondary education and create a college-going culture in schools and communities. The grant is targeted toward 2014-15 7th grade students in 12 Iowa communities with greater than 50% of the student population participating in the free/reduced lunch program. Approximately 6,200 7th graders will be served over the next six years to prepare them for success in college. The project serves as a scholarship fund for these youth upon graduation from high school in 2020. The GEAR UP program provides training for school staff, mentoring/tutoring, job training/shadowing, college/career counseling, and more.

A brief discussion followed. Wauters and Greenlee recommended that Riley present the information to the JJAC. **There was consensus to support the work of GEARUP and recommend a presentation to the JJAC.**

- **Local DMC Updates**

Waterloo – Greenlee reported that more people are getting involved than in the past. Sanjita Pradhan provided information on the bullying/victimization of Burmese refugees in Waterloo. Many are new to the community and have encountered language barriers. She attended a White House initiative regarding Asian & Pacific Islander students. A listening session was held in Des Moines. She noted the importance of cultural competency training.

Iowa City – LaTasha DeLoach discussed community struggles relating to excessive force and a shooting in Coralville. On the other hand, two charges have been added to police diversion—substance abuse and theft 5th.

Muscatine – McKeever reported there are not many problems in the community. Several local judges are interested in the work of this committee.

Des Moines – Ford provided information on the Brown/Black Presidential Forum, co-chaired by Rep. Dave Loebsack and Governor Branstad. Ford planned to share DMC member information with candidates and suggest they contact members if they have questions.

A general discussion was held surrounding racial bias issues across the nation and ways to avoid similar activity in Iowa. Several members spoke about family expectations, career history, and mentors. School attendance expectations and earning a diploma were common threads in lifelong success. Keeping kids in school, encouraging schools to follow up on student absences, encouraging parental involvement, and student motivation were themes expressed.

Wauters suggested a future meeting include sharing experiences to get acquainted on a more personal level. There was consensus to hold a retreat in August.

- **Other**
 - **State DMC Summit** (previously addressed)
 - **NAACP Conference August 2015** (previously addressed)

- **Future Meetings – 9/16/15 and 12/16/15**

Ford discussed the importance of overall meeting attendance. He will review absences and contact members regarding their continued interest and participation.

The meeting adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker
Administrative Secretary
Iowa Department of Human Rights
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning